

Message Text

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67

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 COA-01 COME-00 EB-04 AEC-05

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4839

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3489

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, BTIO, ETRD, CA
SUBJ: CANADIAN INTEREST IN NUCLEAR-POWERED ICE BREAKER

REF: OTTAWA 3444

IN FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS PREPARATORY TO MEETINGS NOV 5-6,
ADDITIONAL DETAILS HAVE COME TO LIGHT CONCERNING CANADIANV
POSITION AND INTERESTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. ALTHOUGH INITIAL DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN IN TERMS OF
"ICE BREAKER," IT IS CLEAR THAT CANADIANS ARE THINKING IN TERMS
OF A MULTIPURPOSE VESSEL FOR ARCTIC SERVICE WHICH WOULD BE
CAPABLE OF PERFORMING BOTH ICEBREAKING AND SUPPLY FUNCTIONS.

B. CANADIAN OFFICIALS HAVE TAKEN CONSIDERABLE PAINS TO
EMPHASIZE THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT AND ENFORCE ANY
SUITABLE UNDERTAKING TO SAFEGUARD PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.

C. FINALLY, CANADIAN OFFICIALS HAVE CLCEARLY INDICATED
TO EMBASSY SCICOUNS THAT THEY WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSIDER
ANY REASONABLE PROPOSAL FOR COOPERATIVE PROJECT ALTHOUGH
THEY ARE PREPARED TO GO IT ALONE IF NECESSARY. WE BELIEVE THAT
THIS OFFER TO CONSIDER UNDERTAKING COOPERATIVE CONSTRUCTION
AND OPERATION OF AN ARCTIC NUCLEAR SUPPLY VESSEL REFLECTS
A CANADIAN SENSITIVITY TO SOME OF THE ISSUES RAISED IN
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POLLACK'S LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR, DATED AUG 15, 1974, AND

A RECOGNITION OF COMMON U.S.-CANADIAN INTEREST IN PRESSING
FORWARD PROMPTLY WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE
TECHNOLOGIES NECESSARY TO COPE WITH OUR SHARED INTEREST
IN THE ARCTIC. PORTER

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